

Cracklin' Static

November 2025 Edition



SIERRA NEVADA
Amateur Radio Society

SNARS BREAKFAST
November 1, 2025
See Page 4 for details!

SNARS NET on DMR – Tuesdays 8pm
DMR Talk Group: 31328 SNARS

SNARS Treasury Closing Balances As of September 25, 2025

Operating	\$7613
Convention	\$4102 value of conv portion of self insure

Self Insurance	\$17104	incl conv \$21166
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Savings	\$5668
Paypal	\$290
Total	\$34737

Net Income/Year	\$6677
Net Income/Month	\$-268
Memberships	11

General	\$2000
Members	\$658
Total	\$2658

Notes: 1. Transferred
**\$2,000 from Paypal to
Operating**

SNARS Membership as of August 30, 2025

Extra	138	38%
General	113	31%
Technician	97	27%
Advanced	13	4%
No License	5	1%
Total	366	

SNARS members ARRL:	221	60%
Life members ARRL:	35	10%
SNARS ARRL Members	256	70%

Volunteer Examiners (VE's):	47	13%
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PRESIDENT'S VOICE

SNARS PRESIDENT BARRY BETTMAN, K6ST



Hello SNARS Members,

Happy Thanksgiving (gobble, gobble, gobble)
and enjoy the upcoming holiday!

Wow, world wide propagation was excellent on the recent CQWW SSB contest this past weekend. I heard lot of dx on and plenty of SNARS members were raving about it too! It's sure fun to work some good DX.

Jamboree on the Air (JOTA), was a wonderful success at the Scouting America - Nevada Council. There were 25 kids with some adult scout leaders, talking across the world and HF to different scouts in many countries. Thanks to all for your support.

The **SNARS nominations** were open for the 4 open director positions was held and closed on October 15, 2025. The 4 incumbents (W7DBE Doug, W6US Jim, W7XM Tony, K6ST Barry) were nominated. Since there were only 4 people nominated for 4 positions there was no election to be held. Welcome W7DBE Doug, W6US Jim, W7XM Tony, K6ST Barry to serve the 2026 & 2027 Board of Directors.

The **SNARS monthly hybrid breakfast** meeting will be held on Saturday 11-1-2025 7am at Jack's Coffee Shop #2 on 6th/East Wells in Reno, and on zoom meeting 8am followed by a Presentation: "Drone-Mounted Field Strength Meter System" with Rudi K7RAW, The Antenna Whisperer.



N7ROJ (SK) John Byerly - Memorial 11-9-2025

As you have probably heard, SNARS Board Member, N7ROJ John, recently passed away. He will be sorely missed! John Byerly's memorial will be held at the Grand Sierra Resort on Sunday, November 9th, starting promptly at 1:30pm PT. To attend, please click on the RSVP button below. Thank you. **NO WALK-INS ALLOWED!**

RSVP HERE

REMINDER ...



HELP PASS THE HOA LEGISLATION

To Eliminate HOA Prohibitions on Amateur Radio Antennas!!!
Free The Antenna!!!

HOW CAN I HELP?

By sending a letter to each of your Congressional Representatives and your Senators. Is my individual letter important? YES — Representatives and Senators rely on constituent input to decide which bills to support. Your voice counts.

BACKGROUND

The ARRL has successfully obtained Congressional support — both in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate — to introduce legislation that, if passed, will eliminate HOA/private land use restrictions that prohibit Amateur Radio operators from installing antennas at their residence.

WHAT ARE THE BILLS?

U.S. House: H.R. 1094, Introduced by August Pfluger (R-TX) and Joe Courtney (D-CT)
U.S. Senate: S. 459, Introduced by Roger Wicker (R-MS) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)

HOW DO I SEND MY LETTERS?

Enter your US FCC-issued amateur radio call sign in the blank below
Your address, zip code and email address will automatically be filled in
If any part of your information is incorrect, please update it
When you are finished—click on the SEND button to send your letters
Please help out. Click on <https://send-a-letter.org/hoa/> and put in your callsign to send your letter. All USA hams are encouraged to do this please!
Thanks to all the SNARS members for contributing in your own special way!

Hope to talk with you on the air.
73, K6ST Barry



PO BOX 7727 Reno NV 89510

Yearly Dues: \$40.00 Individual • \$50.00 Family

2025 Officers

President..... Barry Bettman, K6ST
Vice-President..... Krystal Nelson N6KDN
Treasurer..... Doug Edmondo, W7DBE
Secretary..... Anthony Marcin, W7XM
Director John Byerly, N7ROJ
Director Jim Shepherd, W6US
Director Greg Krantz NT7Q

2025 Staff

Cracklin' Static	Howie Holden, WB2AWQ
W7TA Trustee	Peter DeBay, KE7VSR
KR7ENO Trustee	Howie Holden, WB2AWQ
Control Operator	Pat Sheehan, W7DED
Youth Involvement	Barry Bettman K6ST
NVQSO Coordinator	Jim Shepherd, W6US
Historian	Robin Maguire-Jones KF7VVE
Tech Team Lead	Pat Sheehan, W7DED
Membership	Kim Farnham, KG7TMA
PIO	Vacant
VE Coordinator	Krystal Nelson, N6KDN
Meeting Greeter	Bill Jones, AE7OX
DMR Net Manager	Anthony Marcin, W7XM
Reno Ham Swap	Wes Vick, KG7QXE
Webmaster	Erik Andreasen, K6CZH
Club Sales Manager	Vacant
Recording Secretary	Doug Edmondo, W7DBE
Equipment Manager	Tyler Maggert, K7TDM

Cracklin Static Publication

Editor: Howie Holden WB2AWQ - holden7471@msn.com
Cracklin' Static is the Newsletter of, and sponsored by the Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society. Cracklin' Static is published the week before meetings. Opinions expressed herein are those of the editors and contributors and should not be considered as official expressions of the Club Officers, Staff or Club Members, or as endorsements by same.

Material for publication may be edited to enhance readability or to save space. We reserve the right to use whatever font size, line spacing or other tools as may be required to publish this Newsletter. **Deadline for input to the newsletter is 1500 hours on the Sunday** prior to the 1st Saturday (or whichever Saturday is the meeting) of each month.

SNARS Wide Area Linked System

147.030 + PL 123.0	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	Online
147.210 + PL 100.0	Reno, Sparks	Online
147.150 + PL 123.0	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
146.925 - PL 123.0	Lovelock, Fallon	Online
146.670 - PL 123.0	Winnemucca	Not Linked
444.875 + PL 100.0	Yerington	Online
444.125 + PL 123.0	Reno Sparks (coming soon)	Online

DMR Systems

444.925 + CC 1	Reno, Sparks	Online
444.825 + CC 1	Dayton, Fallon, Carson	Online
443.925 + CC 1	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
443.950 + CC 1	Incline Village	Online
442.875 + CC 1	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	Online
442.850 + CC 1	Downtown Reno	Online
441.950 + CC 1	Fallon, Fernley	Online

Fusion Systems

146.610—DGID 28	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
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Packet / APRS

145.050 - RNO	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
145.050 - ROSE	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
144.390 - TOULON	Lovelock, Fallon	Offline

Standalone Systems

147.390 + PL 100.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
443.075 + PL 123.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
927.0875 + PL 114.8	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online



Online



Offline



Not Linked

Visit <https://snars.org/repeaters/analog> for additional updates/status on repeaters.



Weekday on the SNARS Linked System

147.030 + PL 123	-	Sparks/Fernley
147.150 + PL123.0	-	Lake Tahoe / Truckee
147.210 + PL 100.0	-	Reno
444.875 + PL 100.0	-	Yerington
146.925 - 123.0	-	Lovelock / Fallon
146.67 - PL 123.0	-	Winnemucca

Monday through Friday @ 12:00pm

Open to all amateur radio operators. A general informational net for the amateur radio community of Northern Nevada and Eastern California. Radio Checks and Questions are welcomed.

Nets on the SNARS Linked Systems

147.210 + 100.0 | 147.030 + 123.0 | 147.150 + 123.0
147.670 - 123.0 | 146.925 - 123.0 | 444.875 + 100.0

SNARS Noon Net	Mon—Fri @ 12:00pm
ERC Net for NV and Northern CA	Monday @ 9:15pm
N. Western NV ARES Net	Thursday @ 7:30pm
Northern Nevada Preppers Net	Wednesday @ 8:00PM
Hospital Net	Friday @ 10:00AM

Nets on Simplex/HF

Jefferson Noon Net	7.204 LSB	Daily - 12:00pm
6 Meter Net	50.350 USB	Tuesday - 8:00pm
2 Meter Weak Signal	144.250 USB	Wednesday - 8:00PM
2 Meter Simplex Net	146.500 FM	Thursday - 8:00PM
10 Meter Net	28.350 USB	Sunday - 2:00PM

Join us on SNARS Telegram Channel

Visit <https://snars.org/telegram/>



Telegram

a new era of messaging

Our official channel for members to communicate with each other via chat, ask questions and get the latest information about the club, repeater status and amateur



SNARS Weekly DMR Net

Tuesdays 8:00PM

SNARS Talk Group 31328

SNARS CALENDAR

SNARS Breakfast meeting November 1, 2025.

SNARS Board Meeting Wednesday, November 12, 6:00PM. Location and mode Chin Chin, Sparks, and on Zoom. Click on this link: <https://snars.org/activities/meetings/>
The calendar is below the monthly meetings.

HAM RADIO ELMERING NIGHT on Zoom
7:00 PM Monday November 17, 2025 see <https://snars.org/hamradionight/>

Reno QRP Group Meeting Tuesday, November 18, 11am - 12pm, Jack's Coffee Shop #2, 605 N Wells Ave, Reno, NV. Contact Ed, WD7Y WD7Y@sbcglobal.net for more info. If cancellation is needed, it will be announced on the SNARS noon net.

Next months SNARS Breakfast Meeting, Dec 6, 7 AM (Zoom 8 AM). Location and media mode tentative, depending on Board decision.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

AS OF October 27 , 2025

Greg	Zegas	KM7CLD
Richard	Kalman	W6GZG
Josh	Bloom	KB6VTU
Daniel	Delaplain	WB7QBO

SNARS In-Person Meeting

SNARS Monthly Meeting
(hybrid in-person & virtual Zoom)

Saturday, November 1, 2025 at Jack's Café #2,
605 N. Wells Ave, Reno NV. Breakfast
In-Person 7 AM (breakfast), SNARS Meeting
at 8 AM both Zoom and in-person

PRESENTATION:

"Drone-Mounted Field Strength
Meter System" with
Rudi K7RAW, The Antenna
Whisperer.



**MEETING
NOTICE!**

SNARS In-Person/Zoom Meeting
Jack's Coffee Shop #2
Saturday, November 1st
REGISTER NOW!

Click for more info



To join in person or via Zoom, register here:

<https://snars.org/monthly-meeting/>

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR JOHN BYERLY, N7ROJ

N7ROJ (SK) John Byerly - Memorial 11-9-2025

As you have probably heard, SNARS Board Member, N7ROJ John Byerly recently passed away. He will be sorely missed!

**John Byerly's memorial will be held at the Grand Sierra Resort on Sunday, November 9th, starting promptly at 1:30pm PM PT
To attend, please click on the RSVP button below. Thank you.**

RSVP [HERE](#)

NO WALK-INS ALLOWED!



THE NAME OF THE GAME

Jim Shepherd W6US nvjims@gmail.com

CASUAL CONTESTING

There are a huge amount of hams out there that make or break the results for the avid testers... These are the folks who get on to make a few contacts here and there but are not formally contesting. They may be searching for a contact in a needed county, state, section, zone, grid, prefix, or country for an award. There are some things that can really help in making successful contacts.

First of all, familiarize yourself with the contest. You can find a calendar list of contests at the great website put up by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, at <https://www.contestcalendar.com/index.php>. Once you spot one that interests you, click on it and it will bring up some basic information and further links to the complete rules. Please read the rules and especially information on the 'exchange'.

Different contests use different exchanges and even different ones depending upon where the stations are located. You may see a cryptic line like "W/VE RS(T) State/Provence, DX RS(T) Power". What that means is here in the US and Canada (W/VE) you give a signal report which is usually '59' for phone contacts or '599' for CW and Digital, and the W/VE stations will give their 2 digit state or providence abbreviation while the DX stations will give their power, usually '100' or 'K' for kilowatt. CW users may use what are known as 'cut numbers' like '5NN' to save a few keystrokes over using the full 5 symbols of a regular CW number. Know what your exchange is supposed to be, I even print it in big letters and post it above my keyboard!

This is especially true for the Sweepstakes contest where the exchange is very complex – "Serial No. + Precedence (Q/A/B/U/M/S) + [your call sign] + Check + ARRL/RAC Section" For me that is like this – "1234 Alpha W6US 92 November Victor" where the 'alpha' is for 'single-op low power unassisted' and the '92' was the year I was first licensed. I would be doing very well if I had 1234 contacts for that serial number!

Listen to the cadence of the calls on the air. Most likely you will be doing what is called 'Search and Pounce', tuning up and down the band looking for interesting stations. Rare ones will usually have a number of stations calling. You can 'break the pile up' with good operating. Listen for a couple of their contacts and you can get their callsign and exchange, and you should be able to see if they are grabbing the first call or waiting until the crowd calms down to make the contact. Give your full call phonetically and only your call. The usual convention of calling someone like this "W6US this is W1AW" does not work and I would have probably started entering 'W6U' in my log and would have to stop and erase that missing the other call. Just give your callsign phonetically.

If the station is only able to copy a partial, they may say something like "KA8 Only". Unless your call starts with KA8, do not

continue to call until they say CQ or QRZ again. Let them finish the contact and try again. Also, a contest is not the time to add extraneous chit-chat to your exchange, especially if the contest station is handling a pile-up. You can make short answers if the contest station asks for more information like local weather or what antenna are you using.

In some contests where Nevada or your location is highly wanted by other stations, you may find a clear frequency and start calling CQ hoping others will call you. This can be fun especially when you get spotted. You really want to be using a logging program. Incidentally if you do notice that someone is a duplicate contact, don't say anything and just log them again. They may have made a mistake in copying your callsign before or forgot to log it, so just log it. There is no penalty for dupes in all major contests...

Logging is important even if you do not decide to formally enter the contest. If you are looking for stations in places that may increase your number of states, countries or other factors, having a good record of the contact is important. A lot of the awards are available if you upload your logs after a contest to Logbook Of The World. Contesters are very good at uploading their logs there, and when they match up with yours, the contact is certified for some of these awards... Then again, you may have really enjoyed the challenges of contesting, made a bunch of contacts, and decide to send in a log. A lot of folks have been surprised by receiving contest awards who only made a few contacts... **N1MM is a FREE contest logging program** that can be used for almost all contests.

One thing to avoid are a few frequencies used for disaster relief and safety. 7.198, 7.098, 7.268, 14.198, and 14.325 MHz along with the 14.300 marine frequency should be avoided. There may be more if there are multiple incidents in progress. Breaking into establish nets and rag chews is also not recommended.

If you do decide to turn in a log, do it promptly. Most contests now have limits of a week or less after the contest to submit your log. Virtually all contests require the Cabrillo format logs electronically uploaded to their site. It usually takes about a minute to upload your log and answer a couple of questions.

Having fun with these contests can put lots of stations in your logbook. It will improve your skills at copying information, listening to stations down in the noise, and operating in a busy environment. If you turn in a log, there is always a chance you may actually rank high in your State or Section and get a nice certificate or even a plaque to hang in your shack.

CQ CONTEST CQ CONTEST WHISKEY SIX UNIFORM SIERRA QRZ?

WHAT THE HECK IS A “CUE-SO?”

AND WHAT’S THIS ABOUT PARTYING WITH ONE?

Ham radio is rich in jargon. Much of it has roots going back a hundred years or more. That includes “Q” signals—simple phrases reduced to 3 letters each, starting with “Q” and standing for common phrases related to radio transmission. They greatly simplified communication among operators who spoke different languages—a Q signal means the same thing in any language.

Q signals were readily adopted by hams and used extensively, and that’s still true today. With the advent of voice modes in the 1920s, hams accustomed to Q signals on CW have continued using them on voice. Thus, when you hear a ham complaining about “QRM” or “QRN” during your contact, he or she is copying you through “interference” or “static.” A reply of “QSL” (or *R* or *C* if you’re doing CW....**ED.**) to your transmission means that it was received and understood, and a “QSL card” (or digital equivalent, like LoTW) confirms it.

As commonly used, “QSO” refers to a contact by ham radio, and it’s unofficially pronounceable as “CUE-SO.” You’ve probably heard of that in connection with “The Nevada QSO Party,” an annual event in October during which hams everywhere try to have a QSO with as many Nevada hams as possible, in as many Nevada counties as possible. Most other states, Canadian provinces, and several other countries have their own QSO parties throughout the year. For a quick look at nearly all of them, click [here](#).

Back to the Nevada QSO Party, or “NVQP.” We’ve been fortunate to have our own Jim Shepherd, W6US,

manage the statewide NVQP for the past eight years, but Jim has more irons in the fire than any one person can manage, so he needs to hand off the NVQP function to someone else. Before you think, “oh no, not me,” here’s the part you probably wouldn’t guess: you don’t need to be an old timer like Jim with decades of ham radio experience and strong technical skills. Taking care of the NVQP is primarily a computer task, not a radio task—it needs someone with good PC and Internet skills, *and that is just about everyone reading this!*



Moreover, the elements of the job can be shared among multiple volunteers. It’s an ideal gig for two or more people who already comprise some sort of team: a husband and wife, for example. Two or three friends. A group of associates on the job, in a school, or in some other type of club. You don’t even have to be a ham; you only need those online skills and a willingness to help both Nevada hams and everyone else worldwide who wants to “CUE-SO” with us.

If this describes you and maybe someone you know, and if you’re willing to volunteer your time to a worthy cause that is very much in need, please let us hear from you soon. Contact me at any time for more information—phone, text, or email--and let’s talk it over.

73,
Ron Russell, KG7OR – SNARS member and NVQP fan
Carson City
KG7OR@arrl.net
209-712-6200 cell/text

CHANGE IN EDITORSHIP

Some twelve years ago when I took this job from Mike Katz N7MSK (SK), who knew I would hang onto this job for so long? I should have known; back in my home state of NJ I took the editorship of the 10-70 Repeater Assn (now defunct) Newsletter from Andy, WB2RQX (SK) in 1993 for some 17 years. Been doing this for **29** years now. Lots of water under that bridge. Things have changed: now it's all internet. Back when I started for 10-70, it was all printed, some near 400, 6-8 pages, copied, addressed, postaged, mailed out too. And I did it mostly myself except for stuffing, and labeling the envelopes. Now, things are changing yet again, with a more media-friendly version on the horizon.

Can't say it has all been a piece of cake, but it was never a terribly stressful job. Just something I kind of fell into. Sure, there were club Presidents who kept things simple with short Prez Voice messages, while others were long-winded. Always chasing down late pieces of editorial comment, columns, etc. Mostly though it's been my pleasure to serve all of you, especially **SNARS**!

Now as I enter my twilight years, (I'm 78) I pass the torch proudly to my son **Ken Holden, KB2SFS** who knows more about computers and computer tech than I could ever hope to know. Ken's e-address is djdoublexl189@gmail.com

I would like to thank all the contributors to CS over the years: In no particular order, **Jim Shepherd W6US**, whose *Name of the Game* column has graced this periodical for years, as has his *Short Takes*, *NVQP columns*, *Quartzite Fest* page, *7QP columns* and more; **Don Sherman W7SSB**, who wrote for many years his *W7SSB's Fun Stuff*, and helped us get thru Covid with weekly *Covid issues*; **Ed Dybowski WD7Y** for the QRP net info; **Tony Marcin W7XM** for the many board meeting minutes; **Bob Miller WA6MTY** (SK), and now **Arlan Robinson KA7ZAU** who writes the *ARES News*; **Jon Fox KF7KTC**, former SNARS Historian, who now lives in the Philippines and writes about life there; **Bill Jones AE7OX**, and now **Doug Edmondo W7DBE**, SNARS treasurers (accounting numbers were part of every CS I edited); **Krystal Nelson N7KDN** with VE news; of course the various SNARS Presidents: **Mike Katz N7MSK** (SK); **John Miller N7JDM** (SK); **John Byerly N7ROJ**; (recently SK) **Tony Marcin W7XM**; and **Barry Bettman K6ST** (who writes several other columns); and so many occasional contributors: **David Thompson AG7TX**, whose outings into nowhere were fascinating reading; and so many who contributed photos and stories for the Cracklin' Static Summer Specials, which were all about the ham boys and girls of summer. Any I forgot? Probably many!

I can finally spend my time nursing my old radios back to life, instead of worrying about deadlines and club meetings. See you at the next club breakfast!

73, Howie Holden WB2AWQ WB2AWQ@arri.net (now **FORMER** Editor, SNARS Cracklin' Static)

HELP NEEDED...

I am looking for someone to take over the running of the Nevada QSO party starting next year. I am looking for someone who is a self-starter, has strong attention to details, and is willing to commit to running this event for years to come. Most of the work involves scoring the entries after the event. In the couple of months before, with the cooperation of the SNARS webmasters, update the website information, and make any needed rules changes. There will also be some amount of emails from other hams asking questions and those need to have timely responses. Thanks to Bruce Horn, WA7BWN, we have a log entry portal that handles the entries at the close of the contest. Good knowledge of Excel and other Windows programs are needed to perform the duties. I would like to have someone immediately so we could work together on this year's contest and learn about the work flow. If someone does not step forward in the next week or so, this could be the end of the NVQSO as this is my last year...

If you are interested in taking over this successful and growing event, please contact me at

nvjims@gmail.com

Thanks, Jim Shepherd W6US

SNARS VOLUNTEERING

Thanks to all the **SNARS** members who have helped with the Youth and Scouts. We are on a roll bringing almost 2-dozen new kids into amateur radio thanks to you!!!!

Please feel free to reach out to me to see how you might be of service to the club in 2025! With great appreciation,

K6ST Barry SNARS President k6st@arrl.net
73, Barry K6ST
President, Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society

www.snars.org
Nevada Section Youth Coordinator
ARRL (American Radio Relay League)

www.arrl.org
The national association for amateur radio



SHORT TAKES (By Jim Shepherd W6US)

CONTEST CALENDAR

The State QSO Parties are done for the year. Sweepstakes for CW is the first weekend, and for SSB will be on the 15th-17th. The WW CQ CW contest is the last weekend of the month and is a good time to add some DX to your log. This and other contest information can be found at <https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.php>

DX

WOW, there are lots of expeditions this month with operations in places like Falklands, Lesotho, St Andres, Namibia, Cambodia, and a bunch of other location, especially during the World Wide CW Contest the last weekend of the month. More information can be found at <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

THIRD MONDAY ZOOM HAM RADIO NIGHT

We will have our popular Ham Radio Elmering Nights via ZOOM to get your questions answered. It will be held at 7pm on Monday, 17 November. More information, including the link will be published before that date.

HAMFESTS/EVENTS

Las Vegas-- On the first Saturday of every month, the local "HAMS"

gather at the parking lot, the PETERSON CENTER 6455 Dean Martin Drive. The swap meet is a non-sponsored event. It is held rain or shine and on holidays. There is no charge to set up and sell at this gathering. Selling begins at sunrise and typically runs 2-3 hours, depending on the amount of items and buyers present.

Harkfest 11/1/2025 Location: Redeemer Lutheran Church Annex
470 Rose Lane Wickenburg, AZ 85358
Website: <http://harkaz.org>
Sponsor: Hassayampa Amateur Radio Klub
Type: ARRL Hamfest Talk-In: 146.620
Public Contact: Duane Grooms, KD0KYK
P.O. Box 322 Congress, AZ 85332 Phone: 602-814-9603
Email: djgrooms@yahoo.com

Southern Arizona Fall Hamfest 11/08/2025 Location: Marana Middle School
11285 West Grier Road Marana, AZ 85653
Website: <https://www.tucsonhamradio.org>
Sponsor: Oro Valley Amateur Radio Club Talk-In: 146.62 / 156.7
Public Contact: Steven Wood, W1SR

NAME THAT RIG? (Answer on page 13)



POTA/SOTA ACTIVATIONS

For many of us, amateur radio adds an extra layer of adventure to travel. Summits On The Air (SOTA) and Parks On The Air (POTA) offer the perfect excuse to pack a rig, explore new places, and meet fellow operators along the way.



Shrine at top of Kasagatake

Operating in Japan required obtaining a local amateur radio license and having my transceivers certified, which is no small feat. Fortunately, with the generous help of a well-known Japanese SOTA chaser and activator, I successfully navigated the process. I was issued the call sign JK0AIM and received certification for both my Elecraft KH1 and KX2 transceivers.



Tak (7M4QZE) celebrating activation with me on Kasagatake

After adjusting to the new time zone, I boarded the bullet train from Tokyo to Nagano, where I met up with Tak (7M4QZE) and Waka (JG0AWE). Tak and I headed into the mountains, the same region that hosted the 1998 Winter Olympics, to activate Yokoteyama and Kasagatake, stopping for lunch at a mountain hut between climbs.

Later that week, Tak and I teamed up again to activate Mitousan and Toyama in the Tokyo Citizens Forest Prefecture.



Well known activator/chaser, Waka (JG0AWE)

Each summit qualified for both SOTA and POTA, adding an extra bit of satisfaction to every contact. Finally, on my own, I activated Ueno Park, a well-known POTA location in central Tokyo. I could only imagine what locals thought as they walked by while I sat on a park bench, sending CW with a leg-mounted paddle.



Tak 7M4QZE, leading the way up Kasagatake

Amateur radio continues to connect me with friends around the world, both on the air and in person. There's nothing quite like standing on a foreign summit, keying out CQ, and hearing familiar call signs reply. If your travels take you beyond our local area—whether across the U.S. or across an ocean—consider packing your rig. You might find that SOTA or POTA adds a whole new dimension to your adventure.

-- Craig Sande, AE7I / JK0AIM



ARES NEWS EVENT CALENDAR



EVENTS FOR 2025	DATE	DATE END	SPONSOR/ ORGANIZER	COORDINATOR	CONTACT
Nevada Day Parade	11/1/2025		NV AREA NW DEC	John Phillips KL7RI	phillijs@yahoo.com
Scheels Turkey Trot	11/27/2025		WC-ARES	Arlan Robinson, KA7ZAU	ka7zau@washoeares.org



WCARES^{Inc}
Washoe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service Inc.
 PO BOX 13083 RENO, NV 89507 WWW.WASHOEARES.ORG

WC-ARES Monthly Update Your source for emergency communications news and community outreach **October Highlights & November Preview – 2025 Edition**

Training Spotlight October's training featured guest speaker **Robert Plant (NV7D)** with an excellent presentation on the **Fusion System in Nevada**. Learn more at the Carson Valley Radio Club Fusion Repeater page <https://www.cvrc.radio/fusion-repeaters/>

Reno Adventure Hike – Community Outreach WC-ARES joined SNARS at Reno's annual outdoor wellness fair. We Deployed our ECOMM 2 unit. Net Control Operator Ralph W6RWL made radio contacts with Scout. Scouts got hands-on radio experience — lots of smiles! Thanks to SNARS, the Scouts, and all volunteers for making this event a success!

Red Rock Rumble – Final Horse Event of 2025 ☐ October 18 Our ECOMM 2 trailer supported communications across all checkpoints. We had two medical situations handled via radio. Riders and staff praised our service. Huge thanks to all volunteers who made this event run smoothly!

November Events Mark your calendar:

Nevada Day Parade – Nov 1

Statewide Hospital Exercise – Nov 12

27th Annual Scheels Turkey-Trot – Nov 27

Legislative Action – We Need Your Help! Support the **Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act (H.R. 1094 / S. 459)** This bill protects your right to install antennas—even in HOA-restricted areas. Help pass the HOA legislation and “Free the Antenna!” Visit www.washoeares.org or <https://snars.org>

Click the homepage banner

Enter your FCC call sign

Review your info and click SEND — it's that simple!

November Training Cancelled

No training meeting in November due to the Nevada Day Parade. ☐ Training resumes in December at:

REOC – 5195 Spectrum Blvd, Reno ☐ First Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM Visitors welcome!

Final Notes

Thank you for your continued service and support. Wishing you a safe and joyful November! **(73)**

Arlan Duwayne Robinson (KA7ZAU)

ARES- Washoe County Emergency Coordinator

Cell: (775) 233-3530

Website: www.washoeares.org

Email: ka7zau@washoeares.org

YOUTH INVOLVEMENT COLUMN

SCOUTING AMERICA

New "Radio Venture Crew" beginning!

Congratulations to **SNARS** as many ham radio experiences for the youth have happened in scouting this year. We are in the process of launching a new "**Radio Venture Crew**" between **SNARS** and **Scouting America** - Nevada Council. This can be an exciting opportunity for everyone to help support the next generation of youth in our amateur radio hobby.

More info:

<https://www.scouting.org/programs/venturing/>

Barry K6ST

President, Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society

www.snars.org

Nevada Section Youth Coordinator

ARRL (American Radio Relay League) www.arrl.org



SNARS HAM RADIO ELMERING NIGHT

3rd Monday of each month at 7PM PT on Zoom
Join together and Elmer each other for Ham Radio Mentoring Night



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, AT 7PM ON ZOOM
TOPIC BREAKOUT ROOMS

TBA VHF/UHF ANALOG DIGITAL DMR/FUSION/DSTAR

REGISTER HERE:

https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/tZ0ldO-orz8uHNDRXnL1RI6LiMqJQ_E5opjG

FUN STUFF FOR NOVEMBER

November is a little light on contests with no state QSO parties, and Thanksgiving coming up, but there's a few ARRL contests this month shown in BOLD, plus there's the CQWW CW contest at the end of November like always. And my long-time favorite, the AWA Bruce Kelly event starting November 8 using 1929 and earlier transmitter circuits and tubes.

1 Nov 0600 to 1 Nov 0859 3.5,7 Silent Key Memorial Contest CW RST, SK call sign you wish to recognize
<https://skmc.hu/en/rules.html>

1 Nov 2100 to 3 Nov 0259 1.8-28 ARRL November Sweepstakes, CW www.arrrl.org/sweepstakes

2 Nov 1400 to 5 Nov 0800 1.8-28,50,144 Classic Exchange, Phone Ph www.classicexchange.org

8 Nov 0000 to 9 Nov 2359 50-1296 ARRL EME Contest CW Ph Dig www.arrrl.org/eme-contest

8 Nov 0001 to 9 Nov 2359 28 10-10 International Fall Contest, Digital Dig www.ten-ten.org

8 Nov 0700 to 9 Nov 1300 1.8-28 JIDX Phone Contest Ph www.jidx.org

9 Nov 1900 to 10 Nov 0500 1.8-28,50, 144,432 CQ-Western Electric Contest CW Ph Dig www.w8zpf.com/cqwe

8 Nov 2300 to 17 Nov 0300 1.8-14 AWA Bruce Kelley 1929 QSO Party CW
<https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/bruce-kelley-1929-qso-party/>

15 Nov 2100 to 17 Nov 0259 1.8-28 ARRL November Sweepstakes, SSB www.arrrl.org/sweepstakes

29 Nov 0000 to 30 Nov 2359 1.8-28 CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW www.cqww.com

If you want to see the full list, go [HERE](#)

DX FOR THIS MONTH

Africa is prominently featured this month in DXpeditions. Plus there's some stuff in Oceania, plus San Andres Island off Colombia. Lots of stuff in Africa and around the globe! Have a ball!

Oct 20	to Nov 07	Wallis & Futuna Is	FW5K
Oct 28	to Nov 05	St Vincent	J88PI
Oct 29	to Nov 12	Madagascar	5R8TT
Oct 30	to Nov 10	Sierra Leone	9L8MD
Oct 31	to Nov 20	Burundi	9U1RU
Oct 31	to Nov 10	Bolivia	CP7DX
Nov 01	to Nov 06	Palau	T88HR
Nov 01	to Nov 22	Falkland Is	VP8THW
Nov 01	to Nov 30	Cntrl African Rep	TL8GD
Nov 03	to Nov 07	Cyprus SBA	ZC4RH
Nov 03	to Nov 20	Chatham I	ZL7
Nov 03	to Nov 27	Lesotho	7P8EA

Nov 15	to Nov 21	Tuvalu	T2JK
Nov 17	to Nov 23	St Kitts & Nevis	V47JA
Nov 20	to Nov 30	San Andres I	5J0EA
Nov 20	to Dec 03	Bonaire	PJ4KV
Nov 20	to Dec 31	Namibia	V51WH
Nov 25	to Dec 03	Cambodia	XU7RRC
Nov 25	to Dec 05	Bhutan	A52AA
Nov 30	to Dec 12	St Martin	TO9W

You might check with: <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html> to see more DX, or if others have been cancelled or added to the list.

RENO QRP SLOW SPEED CW NET

NEXT NET SESSIONS WILL BE on November 13 and 20, at 11AM Pacific STANDARD Time. Note the time change!! As always, check with WD7Y@sbcglobal.net to confirm times. Target frequency 7.045 MHz, if busy search somewhere near that frequency.

THE FOLLOWING SHOULD ALWAYS BE IN YOUR REPORT:

NAME, RST, LOCATION, RIG, POWER, ANTENNA.

REMEMBER TO INCLUDE RST IN YOUR REPORT

Feel free to add something else in your exchange.

Take some time to report RST for other OP's or anything else that comes to mind.

Sharing information about you and your equipment will accomplish two things.

First It gives you and everybody else practice sending and copying.

Second It is nice to spend time on the air with your friends. Consider this a QRP meeting on the air.

Relax and have some airtime fun with your friends.

73/72 Ed/WD7Y

NAME THAT RIG (From page 9)

The **Gonset Communicator IV** was the last in a long line of "Gonset Communicator" models. Covering the 1.25, 2 and 6 meter bands, available in single bands only, the **Gonset Communicator IV** employed a single 6360 output tube, generating 24W input for 12-14 out. The sensitivity of the **Communicator IV** was 0.5uV. It did not have a BFO for code, so the selectivity on AM was fairly broad. The **Communicator IV** used 6 tubes in the transmitter, and 9 tubes plus a voltage regulator in the receiver. The transmitter was crystal controlled. No idea when the **Communicator IV** was discontinued but it was somewhere in the late 1960s. The **Communicator IV** was preceded by the Communicators I, II, and III. All AM rigs. The original Communicator I was priced at \$190, and was called the "Gooney Bird" because it had a magic-eye tube for tuning, as did the Communicator II. The Communicator III and **Communicator IV** had a meter. No more Gooney Bird! Yours truly had a **Communicator IV** for 2 meters for years. Used it too.

SNARS SILENT KEYS

IN MEMORY OF SNARS MEMBERS WHO RECENTLY PASSED AWAY.

If you know of a SNARS member or friend of SNARS who has passed away recently, submit it to me WB2AWQ@arrrl.net or any Board member for verification and inclusion on this page.

No minutes because Tony W7XM is on a cruise...